

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 5-13 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended and claim 13 has been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

(a) Claims 1, 2, 5, 8-10, and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buelow, II (U.S. Patent No. 6,554,456) in view of Kojima (JP 2001-249405), and further in view of Wedell (U.S. Patent No. 5,535,111). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the Office Action, the Examiner acknowledges that Buelow fails to disclose the shape of the reflectors or the position and composition of the condensing lens.

Therefore, the Examiner relies on the Kojima reference and alleges that it discloses:

- i) a second reflector portion being formed with an ellipsoid formed in front of the boundary of the arc tube (e.g., [0021]; “the main reflector 3 consists of paraboloid-of-revolution reflectors 3b”; see Figure 5 below); and
- ii) a lens, provided inside the reflector portion, that condenses all of the outgoing light not reflected by the second reflector portion (see Figure 5 below, all outgoing light not reflected by 5 is condensed by condensing lens 4).

It is not clear to Applicants, from the foregoing allegations, as to whether the Examiner is taking a position that the paraboloid-of-revolution reflectors 3b of Kojima corresponds to the “second reflector portion,” or the auxiliary reflecting mirror 5 of Kojima corresponds to the “second reflector portion” of the claimed invention of the present application.

Assuming that the paraboloid-of-revolution reflectors 3b corresponds to the “second reflector portion,” the reflectors 3b are provided behind a light source 1 and is not “formed in front of the boundary of the arc tube,” as recited in claim 1.

Assuming that the auxiliary reflecting mirror 5 corresponds to the “second reflector portion,” the mirror 5 reflects light emitted from the light source 1 back to the reflectors 3b, and does not reflect, such that the emitted light “directly reaches the predetermined condensed spot,” as required in claim 1.

Further, even assuming that the combination of the reflectors 3b and the mirror 5 correspond to the “second reflector portion,” the reflectors 3b and the mirror 5 are two independent members and are not “a single reflector,” as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner merely relies on the Wedell reference to show that a lens consisting of a glass material that will not deteriorate under a high-temperature atmosphere in a vicinity of the arc tube is known in the art.

Applicants respectfully submit that even assuming that Buelow, Kojima, and Wedell can be combined, which Applicants do not admit, Buelow, Kojima, and Wedell, taken singly or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the “second reflector portion,” as recited in claim 1.

Claims 2, 5, 8-10, and 12, dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

(b) Claims 6 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buelow in view of Kojima and further in view of Wedell, and further in view of Roberts et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,200,005). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 6 and 7, variously dependent on claim 1, are allowable at least for their dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

(c) Claim 11 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buclow in view of Kojima and further in view of Wedell, and further in view of Lapatovich et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,566,817) and Ishino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,234,845). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 11, in directly dependent on claim 1, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

New Claim

Claim 13, dependent on claim 1, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 1.

A favorable determination by the Examiner and alliance of this claim is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims in the present application are respectfully requested.

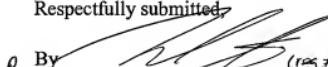
The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it raises no new issues. Alternatively, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it places the application in better form for Appeal.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi, Reg. No. 40,417 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 5, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By  (reg. # 40.417)
Michael R. Cammarata
Registration No.: 39,491
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant